THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court while hearing the Writ Petition regarding the murder of Shri Satyendra Dubey desired that a suitable machinery should be put in place for acting on complaints of whistleblowers, pending enactment of a suitable legislation.

(c) to (f) The Law Commission of India drafted a Bill entitled "The Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers' Bill, 2002". However, as an interim measure the Government of India has issued Resolution No. 89 dated 21st April, 2004 read with corrigendum No. 98 dated 29.04.2004 authorizing the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) as a Designated Agency to receive written complaints or disclosure on any allegation of corruption or of misuse of office by a Central Government employees or an employee of an autonomous body or a company owned or financed by the Government. There are also provisions in the Resolution to keep the identity of the informer secret and to protect the informer from harassment and victimization.

LTC to visit Srinagar

994. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to re-imburse the air fare for all Group A and Group B employees who utilise their LTC (Leave Travel Concession) to visit Srinagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the purpose behind taking such a decision; and

(d) what specific measures have been taken by Government to ensure safety of the Government employees visiting Srinagar on LTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) With a view to promote tourism in the Kashmir valley, all Group A and B Government servants have been permitted to travel on

LTC by Air Economy (Y) class in national carrier between New Delhi and Srinagar for a period of two years and allowed air fare reimbursement *w.e.f.* 16th June, 2004. A copy of the Office Memorandum No. 31011/2/2003-Estt. (A) dated the 16th June, 2004 containing details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) Security arrangements made by the State Government for the safety of the tourists are available to the Central Government servants visiting Srinagar on LTC.

Statement

Copy of O.M. No. 31011/2/2003-Estt.(A)

No. 31011/2/2003-Estt. (A)

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, P.G. & Pensions

(Department of Personnel & Training)

New Delhi, dated the 16th June, 2004

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub. : CCS(LTC) Rules, 1988-LTC travel by air between New Delhi to Srinagar—Relaxation thereof.

The undersigned is directed to say that in relaxation of Rule 12(1) of the CCS(LTC) Rules, 1988, the Government have now decided to permit all Group A and B Government servants to travel on LTC by Air Economy (Y) class in national carrier between New Delhi and Srinagar for a period of two years and allow air fare reimbursement accordingly. These orders shall apply to Government servants who intend to visit Srinagar, by availing All India LTC, provided New Delhi is the originating station or is en-route to Srinagar.

2. These orders shall take effect from the date of issue.

3. In their application to the staff serving in the Indian Audit & Accounts Department these orders issue after consultation with the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

Sd/-

(V.A. Pillai)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

To

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

VRS to Central Government employees

995. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to offer VRS to Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration to offer VRS to the Central Government employees other than those which already exist under various provisions.

Payment of death-cum-retirement gratuity

996. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has held that the Central Government employees who retired between 01.01.1986 and 31.12.1995 are entitled to death-cum-retirement gratuity on the basis of last pay drawn plus full dearness allowance as admissible thereon;

(b) if so, whether Government have issued orders to that effect; if so, when; and

(c) if the decision of the Supreme Court has not been implemented so far, the reasons therefor?